

REMARKS

The 22 June 2006 office action indicates that the reply filed 31 March 2006 is not fully responsive because applicant “did not specifically point out the support for any amendments made to the disclosure.” (Office action at page 2). The statute and rules do not appear to require applicant to specifically point out the support for any amendments made to the disclosure. It is noted that section 714.02 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) states “Applicant should also specifically point out the support for any amendments made to the disclosure.” This appears as a suggestion in the MPEP, not a requirement. Applicant is not aware of any requirement (rule or statute) in this regard and, respectfully, requests that any future office action requesting that applicant specifically point out the support for any amendments provide a proper basis for such requirement.

In response to the 15 December 2005 and the 22 June 2006 office actions, the following basis in the disclosure for the changes in the amendment filed 31 March 2006 is provided.

The basis for the drawing change is the drawing objection at page 3 of the 15 December 2005 office action which acknowledges the “plastic material in the closure” in the claims and disclosure (e.g., applicant’s disclosure at page 13, lines 13-26).

The basis for the title change is the objection in the 15 December 2005 office action (at page 4) and applicant’s disclosure at, for example, claim 1 (which refers to each of the tabs constructed to fold) and claim 6 (which refers to tab extensions).

The basis for change to the claims, i.e., the change adding “a thickness of the tab extension in a direction perpendicular to the direction of extension less than the maximum thickness of the tip of the extending member” in claims 1, 6, 14, 18, 19 and 20 is the objection in the 15 December 2005 office action (at page 4) and applicant’s disclosure at, for example, page 12, lines 4-17 and Fig. 14. Claims 23 and 24 are added as dependent claims to add this above-quoted change as a dependency from claims 10 and 21, respectively. The remaining claim changes (changing thickness to thicknesses) are grammatical or spelling corrections.

Claim 22 remains cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein.

New claim 25 is added. Claim 25 is similar to claim 1 with the phrase “a maximum thickness of the transverse member being substantially equal to a maximum thickness of a tip of each extending member when said thicknesses are measured in the same direction” omitted.

New dependent claim 26 asserts the trapezoidal shape of the extension as shown in, for example, Fig. 8.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the amendment filed 31 March 2006 in combination with the above remarks is fully responsive to the 15 December 2005 and 22 June 2006 office actions and all of the claims (Nos. 1-21 and 23-26) are in condition for allowance and such action is, respectfully, requested.

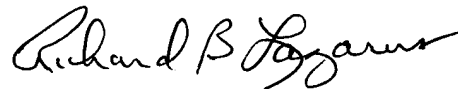
If there is any issue remaining to be resolved, the examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned so that resolution can be promptly effected.

A check for \$250 for one additional independent claim and one additional claim in excess of twenty is enclosed.

It is requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response with the fee for such extensions and shortages in other fees, being charged, or any overpayment in fees being credited, to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg, Deposit Account No. 10-0435 (5723-200255).

Respectfully submitted,

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